

CLAIMS:

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1. A method of editing a property, comprising:
identifying one or more abilities of a property editor;
selecting a graphical user interface based on the one
or more abilities of the property editor; and
providing the graphical user interface for use in
editing the property.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more
abilities are identified by one or more methods invoked by
the property editor.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more methods
invoked by the editor include one or more PropertyEditor
Interface methods.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein if the one or more
abilities include a text editing ability, the graphical user
interface includes a text field entry area.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein if the one or more
abilities include a text editing ability, the graphical user
interface further includes an entry error indicator.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the entry error
indicator is only visible when an entry in the text field
entry area is invalid.

Docket No. AUS920010225US1

7. The method of claim 1, wherein if the one or more abilities include an ability to edit a property using tags, the graphical user interface includes at least one of a popup choice selection area virtual button and a current
5 selection display field.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein if the popup choice selection area virtual button is selected, a choice selection area popup is presented.

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9. The method of claim 1, wherein if the one or more abilities includes an ability to edit the property using a custom editor interface, the graphical user interface includes a popup custom component area virtual button.

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10. The method of claim 9, wherein if the one or more abilities includes an ability to edit the property using a custom editor interface, the graphical user interface further includes at least one of a text entry field and an
20 entry error indicator.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the entry error indicator is only displayed when an invalid entry is entered in the text field entry area.

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12. The method of claim 9, wherein a custom component area is presented in response to selection of the popup custom component area virtual button, and wherein the custom component area includes a custom editor for the property.

Docket No. AUS920010225US1

13. An apparatus for editing a property, comprising:

means for identifying one or more abilities of a

property editor;

means for selecting a graphical user interface based on

5 the one or more abilities of the property editor; and

means for providing the graphical user interface for
use in editing the property.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the means for

10 identifying one or more abilities identifies the one or more
abilities by one or more methods invoked by the property
editor.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the one or more

15 methods invoked by the editor include one or more
PropertyEditor Interface methods.

16. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein if the one or more

abilities include a text editing ability, the graphical user

20 interface includes a text field entry area.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein if the one or more

abilities include a text editing ability, the graphical user
interface further includes an entry error indicator.

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18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the entry error

indicator is only visible when an entry in the text field
entry area is invalid.

30 19. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein if the one or more
abilities include an ability to edit a property using tags,
the graphical user interface includes at least one of a

Docket No. AUS920010225US1

popup choice selection area virtual button and a current selection display field.

20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein if the popup choice
5 selection area virtual button is selected, a choice selection area popup is presented.

21. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein if the one or more abilities includes an ability to edit the property using a
10 custom editor interface, the graphical user interface includes a popup custom component area virtual button.

22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein if the one or more abilities includes an ability to edit the property using a
15 custom editor interface, the graphical user interface further includes at least one of a text entry field and an entry error indicator.

23. The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the entry error
20 indicator is only displayed when an invalid entry is entered in the text field entry area.

24. The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising means for presenting a custom component area in response to selection
25 of the popup custom component area virtual button, wherein the custom component area includes a custom editor for the property.

25. A computer program product in a computer readable
30 medium for editing a property, comprising:

first instructions for identifying one or more abilities of a property editor;

Docket No. AUS920010225US1

second instructions for selecting a graphical user interface based on the one or more abilities of the property editor; and

third instructions for providing the graphical user
5 interface for use in editing the property.

26. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the first instructions for identifying one or more abilities includes instructions for identifying one or more methods
10 invoked by the property editor.

27. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the one or more methods invoked by the editor include one or more PropertyEditor Interface methods.
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28. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein if the one or more abilities include a text editing ability, the graphical user interface includes a text field entry area.
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29. The computer program product of claim 28, wherein if the one or more abilities include a text editing ability, the graphical user interface further includes an entry error indicator.
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30. The computer program product of claim 29, wherein the entry error indicator is only visible when an entry in the text field entry area is invalid.

30 31. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein if the one or more abilities include an ability to edit a property using tags, the graphical user interface includes

Docket No. AUS920010225US1

at least one of a popup choice selection area virtual button and a current selection display field.

32. The computer program product of claim 31, wherein if
5 the popup choice selection area virtual button is selected, a choice selection area popup is presented.

33. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein if
the one or more abilities includes an ability to edit the
10 property using a custom editor interface, the graphical user interface includes a popup custom component area virtual button.

34. The computer program product of claim 33, wherein if
15 the one or more abilities includes an ability to edit the property using a custom editor interface, the graphical user interface further includes at least one of a text entry field and an entry error indicator.

20 35. The computer program product of claim 34, wherein the entry error indicator is only displayed when an invalid entry is entered in the text field entry area.

36. The computer program product of claim 33, further
25 comprising fourth instructions for presenting a custom component area in response to selection of the popup custom component area virtual button, wherein the custom component area includes a custom editor for the property.

30 37. A method of editing a property, comprising:
identifying one or more methods invoked by a property editor for the property;

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        selecting a graphical user interface based on the one
or more methods invoked by the property editor;

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providing the graphical user interface for use in editing the property.

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38. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more methods invoked by the editor include one or more PropertyEditor Interface methods.

10 39. The method of claim 1, wherein if the one or more methods includes at least one of a getAsText method and a setAsText method, the graphical user interface includes a text field entry area and an entry error indicator.

15 40. The method of claim 1, wherein if the one or more methods include a getTags method, the graphical user interface includes a popup choice selection area virtual button and a current selection display field.

20 41. The method of claim 1, wherein if the one or more methods includes at least one of a supportsCustomEditor method and a getCustomEditor method, the graphical user interface includes a popup custom component area virtual button.